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ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Costa Rica* and Colombia**: draft resolution

Convention on Biological Diversity

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 49/117 of 19 December 1994 and 50/111 of 20 December 1995 on the Convention on Biological Diversity and resolution 49/119 of 19 December 1994 on the International Day for Biological Diversity,

Recalling the provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity, 1/

Recalling also Agenda 21, 2/ particularly its chapter 15, on the conservation of biological diversity, and related chapters,

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

** On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries.

1/ See United Nations Environment Programme, Commission on Biological Diversity (Environmental Law and Institution Programme Activity Centre), June 1992.

2/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference (United Nations publication Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex II.

Recalling further the recommendations made at the third session of the Commission on Sustainable Development on the review of chapter 15 of Agenda 21 on the conservation of biological diversity, 3/

Deeply concerned by the continuing loss of the world's biological diversity and, on the basis of the provisions of the Convention, reaffirming the commitment to the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components, the provision of financial resources, technology transfer, respect for each country's intellectual property rights, and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources, in particular for the developing countries,

Emphasizing that the Convention is an instrument aimed at achieving sustainable development, and taking into account its three objectives,

Noting with satisfaction that most States Members of the United Nations and one regional economic integration organization have ratified or acceded to the Convention on Biological Diversity, and calling upon those States that are not parties to take appropriate action to that end,

Taking note with appreciation of the generous offer of the Government of Argentina to host the third session of the Conference of the Parties at Buenos Aires from 4 to 15 November 1996,

Encouraged by the work carried out to date under the Convention,

1. Welcomes the results of the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held at Jakarta from 6 to 17 November 1995, as reflected in the report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention, 4/ submitted in accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 50/111, and takes note of the Jakarta Mandate on Marine and Coastal Biological Diversity, which proposes a framework for global action;

2. Takes note of the results of the second meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, held at the headquarters of the secretariat of the Convention at Montreal from 2 to 6 September 1996, and of the work carried out at the first meeting of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Working Group on Biosafety, held at Aarhus, Denmark from 22 to 26 July 1996;

3. Calls upon those States that have not yet ratified the Convention to expedite their internal procedures of ratification, acceptance or approval;

4. Also calls upon the international community, including multilateral mechanisms and existing funds and programmes, to provide adequate and additional resources, in an expeditious manner, for activities related to the Convention on

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3/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 12 (E/1995/32), chap. I, para. 230 (i).

4/ A/51/312, annex.

Biological Diversity, taking into account the three objectives of the Convention;

5. Welcomes the work being carried out under the Convention aimed at enhancing cooperation with the Commission on Sustainable Development, conventions related to biological diversity and other international agreements, institutions and processes of relevance, and invites the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, at its fourth meeting, to consider ways of promoting closer cooperation between the Conference of the Parties and the General Assembly with respect to aspects of sustainable development that are related to biological diversity;

6. Requests the Conference of the Parties to submit to the General Assembly at its special session in 1997, a report considering, inter alia, progress made and problems encountered, and the effectiveness of inter-agency arrangements established to follow-up the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and suggesting, on the basis of experience gained under the Convention, ways of promoting effective and efficient support in the area of sustainable development throughout the United Nations system for the period after 1997;

7. Invites the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity to report to the General Assembly on a regular basis, including at its fifty-second session, on the results of future meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;

8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session an item entitled "Convention on Biological Diversity".